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Area Wage Survey
Battle Creek, MI
May 1985

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U.S. Department of Labor
Bureau of Labor Statistics
Summary
June 1985

This summary presents results of a May 1985 survey of occupational wages in the Battle Creek Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, which consists of Barry and Calhoun Counties. This is 1 of 99 areas which the Bureau of Labor Statistics surveys at the request of the Employment Standards Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor for use in administering the Service Contract Act of 1965. In addition, the Bureau conducts more extensive studies of occupational wages and related benefits in 71 other areas throughout the United States. For information on these reports and other Bureau publications, contact any BLS regional office identified on the back page.

This study covered establishments employing 50 workers or more in manufacturing; transportation, communication, and other public utilities; wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; and selected services. A sample of 44 establishments employing 16,770 workers was selected to represent 87 establishments employing 22,024 workers in the area. (See table 2 for further information on the scope of the survey.) Data collected in the sample of establishments were projected to represent all establishments within the scope of the survey.

Table 1 provides hourly earnings information on office and plant workers employed in selected occupations common to a variety of industries. Occupational classification was based on a uniform set of job descriptions designed to take account of variations in job duties among establishments. The job descriptions used in the survey are available on request.

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Table 1. Hourly earnings[1] of selected occupations in Battle Creek, MI, May 1985

Occupation[2]	Number of workers	Hourly earnings (all workers)[1]			Number of workers receiving straight-time hourly earnings (in dollars) of —																									
		Mean	Median	Middle range	3.50 and under 4.00	4.00 – 4.50	4.50 – 5.00	5.00 – 5.50	5.50 – 6.00	6.00 – 6.50	6.50 – 7.00	7.00 – 7.50	7.50 – 8.00	8.00 – 8.50	8.50 – 9.00	9.00 – 9.50	9.50 – 10.00	10.00 – 10.50	10.50 – 11.00	11.00 – 11.50	11.50 – 12.00	12.00 – 12.50	12.50 – 13.00	13.00 – 14.00	14.00 – 15.00	15.00 – 16.00	16.00 and over
Secretaries	260	11.02	10.82	9.46–13.11	–	–	1	2	1	7	5	8	8	17	10	10	26	24	17	16	12	15	12	31	30	4	4
Secretaries I	15	8.60	7.68	6.76–11.95	–	–	1	2	–	–	3	–	4	–	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	2	1	–	–	–
Secretaries II	108	10.33	9.72	8.18–12.71	–	–	–	–	1	7	2	7	4	13	10	5	12	2	3	3	5	5	7	8	14	–	–
Secretaries III	72	12.01	12.09	10.49–13.43	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	3	8	3	7	7	3	8	3	12	9	3	2
Secretaries V	17	13.04	14.03	10.98–14.91	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	1	1	1	–	2	–	–	6	1	*2
Typists	39	6.38	6.33	5.46– 7.38	–	–	5	5	2	7	3	8	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Typists I	36	6.41	6.35	5.39– 7.38	–	–	5	5	2	7	3	8	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Word processors	28	9.27	9.36	7.58–10.71	–	–	–	–	2	1	3	1	–	–	–	3	7	2	–	3	2	1	2	1	–	–	–
Word processors I	8	8.33	9.07	– –	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	1	–	–	–	1	4	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Word processors II	20	9.65	9.72	8.65–11.23	–	–	–	–	2	–	2	–	–	–	–	2	3	2	–	3	2	1	2	1	–	–	–
File clerks	66	5.20	4.62	4.44– 5.91	8	10	26	3	3	5	3	1	3	3	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
File clerks I	40	4.77	4.62	4.48– 4.95	6	4	22	3	2	2	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
File clerks II	22	5.90	5.88	4.13– 7.53	2	6	2	–	1	3	–	1	3	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Key entry operators	53	8.51	8.59	7.26– 9.72	–	–	–	–	4	4	3	5	5	5	4	2	15	–	3	2	–	1	–	–	–	–	–
Key entry operators I	22	7.13	7.15	6.39– 7.68	–	–	–	–	4	4	2	4	4	–	3	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Computer operators	45	9.67	9.59	7.99–10.99	–	–	–	–	–	2	6	1	3	6	1	2	6	–	7	3	2	1	–	3	–	2	–
Computer operators I	15	8.25	8.18	6.91– 9.49	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	–	–	4	–	2	1	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Computer operators II	22	9.61	9.59	7.99–10.75	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	1	3	2	1	–	5	–	5	–	1	–	–	1	–	1	–
Computer operators III	8	12.47	12.01	– –	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	7	4	2	6	1	1	2	1	1	–	2	–	1	–
Drafters	66	11.15	10.88	8.65–12.92	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	2	7	–	–	4	–	6	–	4	–	1	6	1	2	3
Drafters II	24	9.82	9.76	8.07–10.79	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	4	–	–	1	–	–	–	3	–	–	–	–	–
Drafters III	12	9.26	8.63	– –	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	2	–	–	–	*2
Drafters V	7	14.50	13.85	– –	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	8	–	–	–	–	1	3	–	4	12	30	1
Electronics technicians	59	14.07	15.27	13.17–15.55	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	8	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	–	6	–	–
Electronics technicians I	17	11.45	12.23	9.18–14.06	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Maintenance electricians	148	13.84	15.55	12.30–15.55	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	6	–	–	–	–	–	–	24	3	19	3	4	14	75	–
Maintenance mechanics (machinery)	169	13.30	12.81	12.09–15.55	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	–	15	–	4	4	–	51	13	–	19	59	–
Maintenance pipefitters	79	14.80	15.55	14.65–15.55	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	6	–	7	–	2	13	1	–
Motor vehicle mechanics	31	13.14	13.64	11.48–14.92	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
General maintenance workers	47	9.05	9.38	7.75–11.25	–	–	–	–	–	9	1	1	1	10	–	5	1	4	3	12	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Tool and die makers	96	11.57	11.11	10.67–13.17	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	12	–	–	–	–	8	8	24	–	18	–	11	15	–	–
Stationary engineers	16	11.79	11.83	10.58–12.67	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	4	–	–	2	5	–	1	–	–
Truckdrivers	64	11.48	12.07	7.95–14.76	–	–	–	–	–	–	9	3	8	–	–	–	–	8	2	–	–	3	–	6	25	–	–
Truckdrivers, medium truck	8	9.87	9.02	– –	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	3	–	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	2	–	–
Truckdrivers, tractor-trailer	30	13.72	14.42	14.03–14.80	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	3	–	–	23	–	–
Shipping packers	80	11.06	12.12	10.57–13.33	–	–	–	–	–	15	–	–	–	4	–	–	–	–	18	–	1	9	–	35	–	–	–
Forklift operators	315	11.91	12.01	10.57–14.13	–	–	–	–	12	–	8	–	–	11	–	–	32	7	50	37	–	14	–	18	114	12	–
Guards	44	13.45	13.94	13.94–14.27	–	–	–	–	–	3	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	29	12	–	–
Janitors, porters, and cleaners	180	10.41	11.07	6.63–13.87	3	4	9	11	4	6	12	4	–	4	–	1	10	13	–	14	18	–	–	55	14	–	–

[1] Excludes premium pay for overtime and for work on weekends, holidays, and late shifts. Also excluded are performance bonuses and lump-sum payments of the type negotiated in the auto and aerospace industries, as well as profit-sharing payments, attendance bonuses, Christmas or year-end bonuses, and other nonproduction bonuses. Cost of living allowances and incentive payments, however, are included. Hourly earnings reported for salaried workers are derived from regular salaries divided by the corresponding standard hours of work. The wages of learners, apprentices, and handicapped workers are excluded. The mean is computed for each job by totaling the earnings of all workers and dividing by the number of workers. The median designates position—one-half of the workers receive the same as or more and one-half receive the same as or less than the rate shown. The middle range is defined by two rates of pay; one-fourth of the workers earn the same as or less than the lower of these rates and one-fourth earn the same as or more than the higher rate.

[2] For occupations with more than one level, data are included in the overall classification when a subclassification is not shown or information to subclassify is not available.

* All workers were at $18.00 to $17.00.

* Workers were distributed as follows: 1 at $18.00 to $17.00; and 1 at $17.00 to $18.00.

Table 2. Establishments and workers within scope of survey and number studied in Battle Creek, MI,[1] May 1985

Industry division[2]	Minimum employment in establishments in scope of survey	Number of establishments		Workers in establishments		
		Within scope of survey[3]	Studied	Within scope of survey[4]		Studied
				Number	Percent	
All divisions	50	87	44	22,024	100	16,770
Manufacturing	50	39	18	14,506	66	11,091
Nonmanufacturing[5]	50	48	26	7,518	34	5,679

[1] The Battle Creek Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area, as defined by the Office of Management and Budget through February 1974, consists of Barry and Calhoun Counties. The "workers within scope of survey" estimates shown in this table provide a reasonably accurate description of the size and composition of the labor force included in the survey. The estimates are not intended, however, to serve as a basis of comparison with other statistical series for the area to measure employment trends or levels since (1) planning of wage surveys requires the use of establishment data compiled considerably in advance of the payroll period studied, and (2) small establishments are excluded from the scope of the survey.

[2] The 1972 edition of the Standard Industrial Classification Manual was used in classifying establishments by industry division.

[3] Includes all establishments with total employment at or above the minimum limitation. All outlets of companies in such industries as trade, finance, auto repair service, and motion picture theaters (within a Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area or nonmetropolitan county) are considered as one establishment.

[4] Includes all workers in all establishments with total employment (within the area) at or above the minimum limitation.

[5] Includes transportation, communication, and other public utilities (excluding taxicabs and services incidental to water transportation); wholesale trade; retail trade; finance, insurance, and real estate; hotels and other lodging places; laundries and other personal services; automobile repair, rental, and parking; motion pictures; nonprofit membership organizations (excluding religious and charitable organizations); engineering and architectural services; and miscellaneous business services. Major industries excluded from this survey are agriculture; mining; construction; some services (notably educational institutions and medical services); and government operations.

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